

Mayor's Messages

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 1

FEBRUARY 20, 2003

Streets of Cincinnati—Mayor Luken Talks about Neighborhoods in State of City Address

"For every Street in Cincinnati, there are hundreds who are working for its success. Those are the people who refuse to give up. I stand with each of them, and I will not allow our neighborhoods to lose out to blight and disinvestment."

That was how Mayor Luken talked about neighborhoods in his fourth State of the City Address at the end of January.

The annual address focused on Crime, development, and neighborhoods.

During his comments on neighborhoods, Mayor Luken pledged to visit more community councils this year, and to communicate more frequently with the neighborhood councils.

This newsletter is one way that the Mayor will increase communication and share positive news that is occurring in Cincinnati.

Each month the presidents of Cincinnati's 52 neighbor-



Mayor Luken delivers his fourth State of the City Address at the Cincinnati Museum Center. Invited were community leaders from all over Cincinnati, including all 52 neighborhood council presidents.

hood councils will receive a newsletter from the Mayor.

Soon, these newsletters will be posted online, for all Cincinnatians to view.

The Mayor's Office will continue to take suggestions as to how we can improve communication between our neighborhoods and City Hall.

If you have suggestions about what should be included in this newsletter, please email Brendon Cull in Mayor Luken's office at brendon.cull@cincinnati-oh.gov.

Thank you for your work as a Cincinnati neighborhood leader. You are making our community a better place.

MAYOR LUKEN OUTLINES 2003 CLEAN INITIATIVE

The State of the City Address focused on a number of items, one of which generated significant interest.

Crime.

"Crime is the number one drag on our efforts to move forward. We must focus our

efforts and our resources on its reduction," said Mayor Luken in his speech. The CLEAN Initiative is a simple way to define a strategy for how we plan to work together to reduce crime.

Throughout the year, Mayor Luken, the Police Depart-

ment, and the City Administration will continue to refer to the principles of CLEAN, and will regularly highlight its successes and its opportunities. Inside, on page 2, you will find a more detailed explanation of CLEAN, including what you can do to help.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

CLEAN Initiative	2
Neighborhood Partnership	2
Mayor's Staff Helps Neighborhoods	3
Spotlight on Development	3
Letter from Mayor Luken	4

CINCINNATI BY THE NUMBERS

SPECIAL BUDGET EDITION

- \$500,000: Amount spent on Police Visibility Overtime in 2002.
- \$750,000: Amount to be spent on PVO in 2003
- 200: Amount of lane miles to be rehabilitated between 2003 and 2004.
- 2.2: Millions of dollars to be spent on Capital Arts programs in 2003
- 10,000: Dollars to be allocated to each neighborhood council for operations
- 9: Number of Councilmembers who voted to pass the budget
- 718.2 Millions of dollars in Cincinnati's General Fund
- 45: Number of police officers to be added to Cincinnati's complement in 2003
- 5.27: Operating property tax millage in 2003

2003 CLEAN Initiative to Focus on Crime Reduction

CLEAN is Mayor Luken's acronym for an initiative to reduce crime in Cincinnati. He announced the program in January at his State of the City Address.

C indicates Communication. As part of that communication, Mayor Luken will meet frequently with Police Command Staff, District Commanders, FOP Leaders, and all ranks of Cincinnati Police Officers.

L indicates Leadership. As the Mayor indicated in his speech, Leadership comes at all levels in Cincinnati—clergy, community leaders, neighborhood councils, business and government leaders. The Mayor will work to get Cincinnatians committed to working in their neighborhood to reduce crime.

E is for Evaluation. Most of the work in this category will occur in Police Administration. It involves evaluating where our officers are stationed, what type of teams are working in each district, and how they are combating changing "hot spots." Additionally, the Command Staff will regularly review crime statistics during the Law and Public Safety Committees of City Council.

A indicates Allocation of Resources. Already the Mayor and Council have allocated an additional \$250,000 for Police Visibility Overtime in 2003, and the Mayor and Administration will continue to look for federal and state funds that can augment existing monetary resources.

N is extremely important—

Neighborhood Involvement. It is the area where every neighborhood group can work to reduce crime. Many neighborhoods already have Citizens on Patrol groups, and some have begun to implement Community Problem Oriented Policing. Expansion of these programs in each neighborhood must continue.

Many neighborhoods are having profound success with police substations. They are working to build neighborhood support for police. Additionally, the Police will continue to work with you to help set up block watches, visit your community councils, and respond to your specific information about crime in your community.

While much of the Cincinnati media focuses on crime and drugs, we are going to continue to focus on how the city is partnering with neighborhoods to reduce crime in a positive way. In these pages throughout the next year, we will highlight some of those successes and ways in which the CLEAN initiative is working in our community.

If you have success stories or ideas you want to share from your neighborhood, please email ryan.mulvenon@cincinnati-oh.gov



Cincinnati Enquirer Photo

CLEAN

District Numbers:

District 1: 352-3505

District 2: 979-4400

District 3: 352-3574

District 4: 352-3576

District 5: 352-3578

Neighborhood Leaders to Partner With Police

On Saturday February 8, 2003, Mayor Luken gathered Police and community leaders to highlight successes from the drug task force activity during the evenings of February 6th and 7th.

Stefanie Sunderland from the Northside Neighborhood and Fulton Jefferson from the Avondale Community were both present to provide a neighborhood perspective.

During this task force, over 110 people were arrested and thousands of grams of drugs were seized from the streets of neighborhoods such as Northside,

Avondale, Over-the-Rhine and Price Hill.

Mayor Luken and City Manager Valerie Lemmie spoke to the investigations bureau before they began their sweep. The Mayor stressed the support that Cincinnati has for their officers and told them that the city would grow if we could reduce crime.

Capitan Vince Demasi and Whalen stated that the Investigations Bureau will continue to partner with neighborhoods and community leaders to reduce crime. Neighborhood leaders are en-

couraged to meet with their local officers to discuss plans for crime reduction.



A Cincinnati Police Officer holds a small child at a neighborhood event in Fall 2002.

Chief of Staff Knows Cincinnati Neighborhoods

Since early 1999, Bernadette Watson has sat just outside the door of Mayor Charlie Luken's office.

But before that, Ms. Watson walked the streets on Reading Road in Avondale as the Avondale Community Council president.

"My time as president was incredibly fulfilling. I learned so much about how our neighborhoods can develop, change, and grow," said Ms. Watson recently.

Most importantly, Ms. Watson understands the difficulties that face a neighborhood council president each day.

In fact, that was the clear reason Mayor Luken made her his chief-of-staff in 1999. "She is able to connect with the 52 neighborhoods in Cincinnati," said Mayor Luken.

"She knows them, knows their issues, and importantly, knows how to help them get things accomplished in City Hall. That's why she's so important," added

the Mayor.

On a daily basis, Ms. Watson assists communities with development projects, zoning issues, and strategic planning in a neighborhood.

The Mayor's office encourages any neighborhood to use Ms. Watson as a resource for accomplishing goals in each neighborhood.

Each week, Ms. Watson spends time with Mayor Luken discussing neighborhood concerns. Throughout the course of the year, Mayor Luken and Ms. Watson will be visiting community councils all over the city to meet the leadership in each group.

If you would like to stop in the Mayor's

office anytime, just call Bernadette.

While she was Avondale Community Council President, Ms. Watson implemented the Avon-

dale Strategic Plan. She is available to assist any neighborhood with their work in developing strategic planning for their

own neighborhood.

"Bernadette is able to connect with the 52 neighborhoods in Cincinnati"

—Mayor Luken



Bernadette Watson on the telephone at her desk in Mayor Charlie Luken's Office. She has worked in the Mayor's Office for three years. She can be reached at 513-352-5356 or on email at bernadette.watson@cincinnati-oh.gov.



Spotlight on Neighborhood Development



Since this is the inaugural issue of "Mayor's Messages," you should know that we will feature new neighborhood developments in this space each month.

This month, the Mayor chooses to highlight DeSales Corner in East Walnut Hills.

DeSales is a mixed use development that will augment the entire business district in East Walnut Hills. It sits at the crossroads of East Walnut Hills, Walnut Hills and Evanston, and will provide an important destination for the three neighborhoods.

DeSales will ultimately feature upscale housing units, a coffee shop, and other ground level retail. Simone's, a thriving restaurant currently located in East Walnut Hills, will also relocate to the DeSales development.

Keith Glaser, the developer of the project, is excited about the neighborhood's future. "This sends the right message to all of Cincinnati—City Hall can partner with neighbor-

hoods to successfully develop an area," says Mr. Glaser.



DeSales Plaza in E. Walnut Hills, looking Northeast at Woodburn and Madison

OFFICE OF MAYOR CHARLIE LUKEN

City of Cincinnati
City Hall
801 Plum Street, Room 150
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

Phone: 513-352-3250
Fax: 513-352-5201
Email: charlie.luken@cincinnati-oh.gov

*This newsletter is also
online at
www.cincinnati-oh.gov*

DELIVER TO:

Letter from the Mayor

Thanks for taking the time to read this newsletter. Each month, I'll give you an update on my perspectives from the Mayor's Office.

I can tell you that it has been a whirlwind month since the State of the City Address.

I have spoken with many of you since the speech, and as you know, my focus has been crime.

As I said in my speech, we must work to reduce crime. I have been visiting police districts, and speaking directly to our officers—many of the officers who walk beats in your neighborhoods.

They are working as hard as they can to keep our streets safe, and I support them in their efforts.

Mayor Luken poses with the Mayors of Ohio's six biggest cities. Last month, Mayor Luken met with the Mayors to discuss Homeland Security.



Next month, I will meet with Judges from the Hamilton County Municipal and Common Pleas Courts, and we will discuss ways that we can work together to improve the entire Justice System.

One more thing before I leave you, remember my pledge in the State of the City speech about development. Anyone who wants to develop one housing

unit, one business, or move one job into the city can start by calling the Mayor's Office at 352-3250.

2003 is a year to celebrate and we will celebrate together..

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Charlie Luken".

Charlie Luken
Mayor, City of Cincinnati

